

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 2 depicts details of a representative optical monitor 108 according to one embodiment of the present invention. A signal from a corresponding tap coupler 110 is input to a tunable optical filter 202. The input signal to tunable optical filter 202 is a WDM signal that includes components having different wavelengths. As indicated by the amplifier symbols in dotted lines, An an additional optical amplifier can be inserted either at the input or output of tunable optical filter 202 as required. Tunable optical filter 202 selects a particular wavelength for further processing by optical monitor 108. Tunable optical filter 202 may be implemented as a Fabry-Perot filter, a Mach-Zehnder interferometer, tunable Bragg grating etc. The output of tunable optical filter 202 is a single wavelength signal.